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Subject: Soviet tourists in Rome, Italy, July 1966

Source : Dr K.

Date : 4 Aug 1966

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2007

1. The group of Soviet tourists arrived in Rome on 29 Jul 1966 from Spain where they stayed for 21 days and toured 10 cities. In Rome they were accommodated in the hotel Diana, Principe Amadeo 4. On 30 July they were said to have departed for the USSR. Source made contact with members of the group on 29 Jul 1966 in the lobby of the hotel. He spoke to several of them but was unable to induce them into any deeper and more meaningful conversation. He noticed about a dozen of them, mostly women.

2. Most interesting was Source's first contact, an Armenian professor of Moscow University, aged 50-55, male, who spoke Italian and French (beside Russian). In the conversation that ensued, the professor praised de-Stalinization program, stressing that great progress had been achieved to date. He did not go, however, beyond generalities. The nationalities policy was touched upon but not at any great depth. Again, the professor stuck to official party line assuring his interlocutor about "friendship of Soviet peoples", their cultural and economic achievements in the union with each other also. Upon being told that Source was ^{of} Ukrainian descent the professor excused himself for a few moments and returned with a woman whom he presented as a Ukrainian. She was approx. 45, blonde, slim. During the short discourse the Source had with her, there were no significant political topics mentioned. She stuck to party line in all aspects and did just repeat generally known phraseology. After she left Source continued his conversation with the professor. When he asked the professor for his address, the latter refused to give it and left soon afterwards.

3. Encounters with other tourists, a man aged approx. 60, 5'7, a Russian, and 2 other women, were of no significance either. Listening to a telephone conversation of one of the tourists Source

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figured out that there was ~~among~~ ~~xxxxxx~~ the tourists one person by the name Siniavsky.

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